Wallace vows to stay in race, fights paralysis

Suspect quizzed 3 days ago

Daily News Wire Services

The suspect in the shooting of Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace was questioned by Kalamazoo (Mich.) police four hours before a Wallace rally last Saturday night.

"If Wallace had gone out into the in Kalamazoo crowd to shake hands here, he probably

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would have been shot here," said Deputy Police Chief Orville Ragan.

Ragan added that the suspect, Arthur Herman Bremer, 21, "never had the chance" to open fire on Wallace in Kalamazoo because Wallace did not mix with the crowd of 1,500 persons in the National Guard Armory or another 200 persons standing outside.

BREMER WAS questioned by Policeman Edward Gooding about 4 p.m. Saturday after police received a complaint about "a suspicious man sitting in a blue car near the armory."

Gooding said that he ques-

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tioned Bremer, who informed the officer he was merely waiting to attend the Wallace rally. "There was nothing out of the ordinary and Bremer wasn't arrested or brought into our station," Ragan assed.

Gooding did check with the station to see if there was a wanted message out one either Bremer or his 1968 blue Rambler with Wisconsin license plates, but found none.

Ragan said that Wallace entered and left the rally through a rear door of the armory and remained behind his bullet-proof steel lectern while making his speech.

THE NEW York Daily News said Tuesday that Bremer had been traveling with the Wallace campaign all week and had endeared himself to members of the governor's staff.

The News attributed the story to an unidentified source. However, Charles Snider, Wallace's chief campaign director, said he does not recall seeing Bremer at any campaign rally, except one in Wisconsin. "I'm sure the governor didn't know him," Snider said.

UNITED PRESS International quoted a source close to the investigation who said one theory being actively pursed by the FBI was that Bremer "was a hired killer."

However the source, who UPI said refused use of his name, emphasized that this was only one of several theories being investigated.

The source said the theory began evolving after Bremer refused to talk without advice of an attorney immediately after his arrest and then asked at his arraignment for an American Civil Liberties Union lawyer, rather than a court-appointed counsel.

THE SOURCE said the possibility that he was hired to shoot Wallace was strengthened by the discovery in Bremer's Milwaukee apartment of notes "indicating he was studying the problem of maintaining his sanity during a long period of confinment."

There also was a book in the apartment on "One Hundred Games One Can Play By Himself," the source said. There was the further fact that Bremer "went out of his way in recent weeks to identify himself with the Wallace campaign" and thereby possibly set up an assassination attempt, the source said.

MEANWHILE, in Balitmore Bremer walked into a federal courtroom near midnight Monday, his straw-colored hair matted with patches of blood and medicine.

As he stood with feet slightly apart and his arms manacled behind him Bremer heard U.S. Magistrate Clarence Goetz order him held under $200,000 bond.

Bremer, accused of shooting Wallace and a Secret Service agent, grinned slightly during part of the hearing, but became serious when questioned by the magistrate.

The short, stocky man — he's 5-feet, 7-inches tall and weighs 140 pounds — wore a tight-fitting yellow Western-style shirt, baggy green hospital pajamas and white socks.

BREMER, WHO was charged with assaulting a federal officer and violating the Civil Rights Act by assaulting a candidate for elected office, will be prosecuted under the 1968 Civil Rights Act.

Wallace opposed that law, as he did most other civil rights legislation.

But he was covered under a provision that protects any individual "campaigning as a candidate for elective office" in any federal election.

Penalties for conviction if a deadly weapon is used are 10 years in prison or a $10,000 fine. If death results the death penalty may be levied.

The state of Maryland also filed four charges of assault with intent to murder, each punishable by a 15-year prison term.

When he appeared in federal court Monday night Bremer declined a court-appointed attorney, saying he wanted to be represented by the American Civil Liberties Union.

But Goetz ordered Dan Lipsitz, a Baltimore attorney, to represent Bremer until other arrangements could be made.

WHEN GOETZ asked if he was able to afford an attorney, Bremer replied, "No, I'm not, and I would not favor a court-appointed attorney."

He answered, "Yes, I do,"

in a strong voice when asked if he understood the nature of the charges.

Shifting from side to side, Bremer later told Goetz, "My worth is less than $200." He said his only property was a car.

U. S. Atty. George Beall recommended the $200,000 bond because of the "nature and circumstances of the charges. The weight of the evidence against him is very strong."

Beall said the 38-caliber revolver used in the shooting was bought by Bremer last Jan. 13 in Milwaukee.